



**Community Action Partnership of Kern**

*Helping People. Changing Lives.*

**PRESS RELEASE  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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Contact: Corrine Coats  
ccoats@capk.org  
P. 661.336.5236 Ext. 160  
F. 661.322.2237

**CAPK TO HOST EITC AWARENESS EVENT**

**January 29<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 am to celebrate the kick-off of tax season and raise awareness about EITC**

**Bakersfield, CA**— This month, Community Action Partnership of Kern will be taking part in a nationwide campaign to inform taxpayers about an important credit for working families and the availability of free tax preparation.

The Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) helps Americans who work hard but need a little extra support to make ends meet. Many Kern County residents who qualify for EITC and are eligible for free tax preparation services such as the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program are not utilizing these resources. In 2006, only 26% of eligible Kern County tax payers filed for EITC.

On Saturday, January 29, 2010, CAPK will be hosting the EITC Awareness Day event. The celebration will be focused on the children, who will be engaged with face painters, games and activities, while their parents are helped with tax preparation and provided with information on other resources available in the county.

To qualify for EITC, individuals must have a valid social security number, be a U.S. citizen by birth or marriage, have earned income that falls within the EITC threshold, have qualifying children or be without children but between the ages of 25 and 65, not have been claimed on another's tax return, or not married and filing separately.

The EITC Awareness Day event will be held at the VITA office, 1002 Wible Road, Suite J, in Bakersfield, from 11:00am-3:00pm. Volunteer tax preparers will be available to do tax returns on site on a first come first served basis, and appointments will also be welcomed. The VITA site will be open throughout the tax season, and appointments can be made by calling 211 or the VITA office directly at (661) 834-1724.

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